

NOI Full Text

Project Goals and Objectives

Background

The City of Paterson, New Jersey, the home of Paterson Great Falls National Historical Park (NHP), has been an immigrant city since its founding in the 1790s. Today over fifty different ethnic groups are represented in Paterson, and this diversity makes the city a hub of multicultural art, music, literature, and especially food.

Goal

“Savor Paterson” will educate high school and college students about and celebrate the city’s immigration story through hands-on educational and interpretive food-related activities. The project will culminate in the “Savor Paterson” food festival in 2021, with the year leading up to the festival focusing on place-based learning activities aligned with culinary arts, business and finance, hospitality, and tourism.

Objectives

Paterson Great Falls NHP will partner with Ramapo College of New Jersey (Ramapo College), Passaic County Community College (PCCC; partnership is through Ramapo College), and students from the Culinary Arts, Hospitality, and Tourism (CAHT) program at a Paterson, New Jersey high school to:

- Research and design educational and interpretive programs, aligned with PCCC and CAHT’s school curricula, regarding the importance of food to a culture’s identity;
- Research and develop 10-20 signature dishes that represent a cross section of the many cultural groups from Paterson, New Jersey;
- Research, develop, and present one food-based heritage tourism plan.
- Help plan, manage, and cater the culminating “Savor Paterson” 2021 food festival event that will be at Paterson Great Falls NHP and in honor of its 10th anniversary as a unit of the National Park Service (NPS). The event has an expected attendance of up to 500 people.

Program prep includes Mobile Food Lab (MFL: a school bus outfitted with cooking facilities) educators consulting with students on their marketing and tourism plans; a potential trip to Lower East Side Tenement Museum, where students will receive a tour & copies of “The Ellis Island Immigrant Cookbook” as inspiration; and visits during the 2020-2021 school year by NPS rangers to the students’ classes to provide educational programs regarding the city’s history and introduce the students to the concept of cultural heritage tourism.

Statement of Work

Proposed Schedule and Work Plan

(*Please note: It is the desire of both the NPS and the Recipient is to conduct the program from August of 2020 to December of 2021. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NPS requests that the Period of Performance and the Term be extended another full year in the likelihood that the schools will not be able to get fully back “on track” by August 2020.)

August 2020 - October 2020

- Conduct meetings with representatives from the NPS, Ramapo College, Passaic County Community College (PCCC; Ramapo College is partnering with PCCC) and a Paterson high School Culinary Arts, Hospitality, & Tourism (CAHT) program. Develop roles and responsibilities regarding lesson plans, guest speaker(s) outreach, etc.
- The high school will identify a specific class to participate in the program.
- NPS, high school, and college staff to provide program orientation to PCCC and high school students.
- Ramapo College to identify educators to provide programming for culminating event.
- Choose date for culminating activity and confirm with high school principal.

November 2020 – January 2021

- NPS staff begin teaching students about Paterson’s history, including immigration and its connection to food culture and cultural identity.
- NPS, colleges, and high school to contact guest speakers to provide content to culinary student members.
- Schedule potential visit to the Lower East Side Tenement Museum. There students will tour the tenement, learn about immigration, sample a variety of foods from the neighborhood and discuss food’s role in immigration history, the neighborhood, and wider American culture.
- By late January, chefs to visit PCCC and high school culinary students to help decide and demonstrate dishes that the students will prepare for culminating event. The college students will create dishes from up to the early 20th century, and the high school students will create dishes from the early 20th century up to today.

February – April 2021

- College and high school students continue working with teachers, NPS staff and Ramapo College educators to design presentations that they will present at culminating event which address food’s role in local immigration history, the City and wider American culture.
- High school tourism students work with PCCC culinary students to create a food tourism brochure for Paterson.
- Students, teachers, and NPS staff work on culminating event ideas, logistics and implementation.

- Finalize logistics for culminating event.
- Begin publicizing the event to the community.

May – June 2021

- Project teams continue to meet and review activities for culminating event.
- Conduct final “Savor Paterson” food festival event in May. (May is first choice, later date if not possible in May).
- Review successes and challenges and create lessons learned and best practices document.

July 2021-October 2021

- September or October: Conduct “Savor Paterson” food festival event if not possible in May.
- Improve tourism plans based on culminating event feedback.
- Use research to create park programming that notes the importance of food culture and immigration, etc.

November 2021-December 2021

- November: Conduct “Savor Paterson” food festival event if not possible in May, September, or October.
- Launch tourism initiative in celebration of the park’s 10th Anniversary.
- Refine park programs to include the importance of food culture and immigration, etc.

Final reports

NPS Responsibilities

1. Monitor and provide Federal oversight of activities performed under this agreement. Monitoring and oversight includes review and approval of financial status and performance reports, payment request, and tasks identified below. Additional monitoring activities may include site visits, conference calls, and other on-site and off-site monitoring activities.
2. At the Recipient’s request, NPS may also provide additional technical assistance to the Recipient in support of the objectives of this agreement.
3. Provide lessons to students regarding Paterson history and its connection to this project.
4. Meet with students, teachers, and partners on a regular basis to check on progress.
5. Provide local historian guest speakers from the Paterson Museum and the City of Paterson Historic Preservation Office regarding history of Paterson.
6. Provide personnel and logistical support for the culminating event.

The Recipient and NPS, jointly, agree to:

1. Plan overall events and logistics with the help of faculty and staff support from both parties.
2. Initiate and meet with teachers and students to review and finalize culminating event.
3. Finalize all details involving the culminating event including confirming support staff and volunteers.
4. Coordinate potential field trip to the Lower East Tenement Museum for a special program where students will taste a variety of foods and discuss the role of food in immigration history.